THE THIEF WITH 20 FACES !!

1



CLAMP

PIKA EDITION



CLAMP

SATSUKI IGARASHI
NANASE OHKAWA
MICK NEKOI
MOKONA APAPA

CREDITS:

SCANNED BY: KAZUHIKO
EDITED BY: KAZUHIKO
TRANSLATED BY: DEEDLITH
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Happy Come On!
PRESENTED BY CLAMP

A MAN S WORTH IS MEASURED WITH HIS WIFE S HAPPINESS. IT S A SENTENCE WHICH I HAVE READ ONE DAY IN A BOOK. AT THAT TIME, I DIDN T UNDERSTAND ITS MEANING... I HAVE TWO MOTHERS. MY SCHOOL FRIENDS AND MY NEIGHBORS SAID THAT IT S A BIT WEIRD... I DON T GET WHY. HOWEVER, WHAT I KNOW IS THAT TO LIVE WITH THESE TWO ADORABLE MOTHERS IS HAPPINESS . ONE DAY, I SHOWED THEM THIS SENTENCE, ASKING WHAT IT MEANT. THEY ANSWERED WITH A GENTLE SMILE THAT THEY DIDN T REALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT THAT THEY WERE FEELING HAPPY LIKE THEY WERE YESTERDAY AND WILL BE TOMORROW... DID THAT MEAN THAT MY FATHER, WHO HAD GIVEN HAPPI- NESS TO THOSE WOMEN, WAS A WORTHY MAN ?


MY TWO
MOTHERS


THE FOLLOWING DAY, I ASKED DOCTOR AKESHI AND RYÛSUKE TO EXPLAIN ME WHAT THEY UNDERSTOOD OF THAT SENTENCE... RYÛSUKE CLAIMED: "A WORTHY MAN IS A MAN WHO IS ABLE TO APPRECIATE TASTY LITTLE DISHES UNTIL HIS LAST MOMENT." DOCTOR AKESHI KINDLY SMILED SAYING: "SOME PERSONS SEE THE WEDDING AS A DOOR WHICH OPENS TO A NEW LIFE, OTHERS SEE IT AS AN ENTRANCE TO HELL. PERHAPS A WORTHY MAN IS THE ONE WHO SEES IT AS A POSSIBILITY TO MAKE SOMEBODY ELSE HAPPY... ALTHOUGH, THAT IS ONLY THE VIEW OF ONE COURSE." THEN HE ADDED: "IN FACT, TO ME A MAN WHO HAS VALUE IS A MAN WHO IS ABLE TO PROVIDE FOR HIS OWN NEEDS UNTIL THE END."
AND ME, I STILL DON'T UNDERSTANDING ANYTHING...
RYÛSUKE
DOCTOR AKESHI

ON FRIDAY S EVENING, AS USUAL, I WENT TO UTAKO. WHILE SERVING MYSELF A SLICE OF CAKE, I ASKED HER ABOUT IT, AND SHE SAID, MMH... 'IT S A LITTLE STRANGE...', INCLINING HER HEAD
WHEN THE BRIDE IS HAPPY, WE SPEAK OF HAPPINESS BUT WHAT ABOUT THE MAN?
THAT TIME, IT WAS ME WHO LOOKED DOWN...
THEN UTAKO ADDED, LAUGHING, WHY, IN A COUPLE, ARE WE ALWAYS ONLY CONSIDERING ONE OF THEM TO TALK ABOUT HAPPINESS ? IT S UNFAIR. ISN T REAL HAPPINESS ACCOMPLISHED WHEN THE COUPLE IS HAPPY TOGETHER? I FOR ONE THINK THAT I DO MY BEST, AND WILL SPARE NO EFFORT TO GET THAT. I THINK THAT, IN THE BEGINNING, HAPPINESS FILES PEOPLE BEYOND EFFORTS POSSIBLE. BUT PEOPLE WHO SAY THAT THERE IS NO NEED TO USE EFFORT, THAT TO ONLY BE TOGETHER IS ENOUGH TO BE HAPPY LEAVE ONE DAY THEIR DREAM AND GO BACK TO REALITY... THE ONLY THING LEFT TO THEM IS THE REGRET OF THOSE DAYS WHEN NO EFFORTS HAD BEEN DONE... THEY CAN JUST WHINE OVER ALL THOSE DAYS WASTED, BECAUSE THIS WORLD IS NOT JUST OURS AND BECAUSE WE ARE NOT ALONE. I LL ALWAYS DO MY BEST FOR US TO BE TOGETHER AND HAPPY. HAPPINESS DOESN T COME ALONE, IT S NECESSARY TO SEARCH FOR IT.

I WAS LOOKING AT UTAKO WHO WAS STANDING IN FRONT OF ME AND WAS LAUGHING. I REALLY DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT A MAN S VALUE WAS, BUT IF I COULD STARE AT THAT SMILING FACE FOREVER, IF I COULD MAKE HER A HAPPY BRIDE, THEN I, TOO, WAS READY TO MAKE THOSE EFFORTS

FOR HER GIVING ME THIS HAPPINESS...
ANY TIME...


UTAKO

THE THIEF WITH 20 FACES

1

















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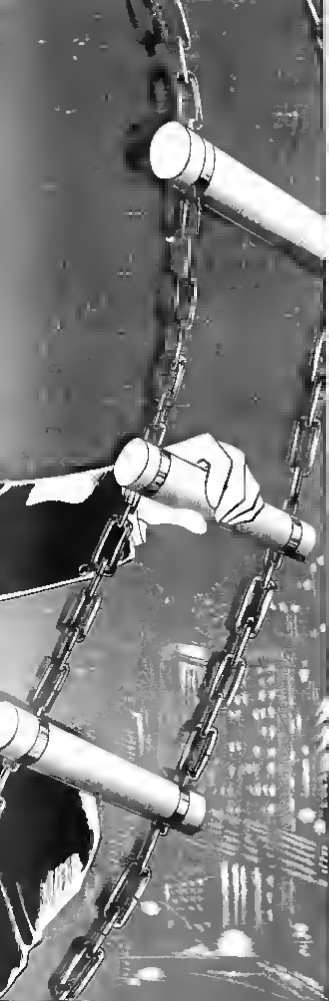




REALISED BY CLAMP
SCENARIO AKAWA NANASE
DRAWING CLAMP


IN OUR WORLD DOMINATED BY TECHNOLOGY A MYSTERIOUS THIEF IS MAKING LIFE DIFFICULT FOR EVERYBODY
KRRR


THE ACROBAT
CASE
1
ENTRANCE




BEHIND THE MASK WHICH CONCEALS ME FROM THE WORLD'S EYES...
AKIRA...
AKIRA- IS IT READY?


I AM JUST A CLAMP FOURTH YEAR PRIMARY SCHOOL-BOY.
ERR...NOT YET, BUT IT'S ALMOST FINISHED...
FRISCH
MOTHERS?
MY NAME IS AKIRA HVIN


SORRY IT WAS A BIT LONG...
POK
IT'S NOTHING, YOU ARE SO TALENTED IN COOKING AKIRA...
THOSE YOUNG LADIES ARE MY MOTHERS
MY FATHER DOESN'T LIVE WITH US
BON APPETIT !
HERE... HAVE A DELICIOUS MEAL!
FUSSH
I INHERITED OF MY FATHER'S JOY AND BECAME THE ACROBAT
SAY, AKIRA...
IN ONE OF YOUR SCHOOL'S CLASSROOM, THERE IS A LARGE CLOTH WHICH YOU CALLED IT THE CURTAIN... YOU SEE IT? WE WOULD LIKE IT...
WOULD YOU LIKE TO STEAL IT FOR US?
THE CURTAIN?
♡ YESSSSSS...
BUT... IT IS OWNED BY THE SCHOOL
AND I KNOW THAT THE HEADMASTER IS ATTACHED TO IT A LOT


WHAT! DOES IT MEAN THAT YOU ... DON'T WANT TO?
BUT WE REALLY REALLY REALLY WANT IT!
WELL, OKAY ...
SEE YOU THIS EVENING !
POP
HEY!
HI!
CAN WE WALK TOGETHER ?
HIM IT'S MY NEIGHBOR RYUSUKE KOBAYASHI
OH! IT'S YOU RYÛSUKE! HI!
YOU LOOK FINE!
HE IS THE SUSHI SELLER'S SON HE IS IN THE SAME SCHOOL AS ME BUT HE IS A 1ST YEAR HIGH SCHOOL BOY. HE HAS BEEN REALLY NICE TO US. SINCE WE ARRIVED HERE.
YES!
YET YOU ALWAYS DO SO MUCH STUFF...
WELL NOT SO MUCH...


HE'S COOL!
DON'T FORGET, IF SOMEBODY EVER BULLIES YOU, COME TELL ME... I'LL BE ALWAYS HERE TO HEL" YOU.
THANKS!
I LOVE ALL THE EVENTS LIKE FIRES OR FIGHTS...
OH ...
BY THE WAY... WE SAW HIM AGAIN...
THE ACROBAT !
BECAUSE THE ACROBAT IT'S ME !
HE HE
THIS WOULD SURPRISE MORE THAN ONE IF IT WAS KNOWN
AAH
SCHAK
FIIT FIIT
PHEW...
Tomorrow evening 23 :00 pm clamp
school I will steal your stage c
curtain and ask you in advance
to excuse me!


THE FOLLOWING DAY
HI!
HI!
STRANGE IDEA...
WHAT?! HE WANTS THE THEATRE S CURTAIN OF THE SCHOOL!
YOU KNOW WHAT? THE ACROBAT HAS DONE A DECLARATION AGAIN!
BLABLA
HE WILL COME TO SCHOOL, THIS EVENING!
FINE!
THIS TIME, WE WILL GET HIM!
I DIDN T PUT ANY BANANA!
HERE YOU ARE, A LITTLE LUNCH...
HAVE YOU TAKEN A HANDKERCHIEF?


C
HERE HE IS!
PFF, IT S HEAVY!
FROT FROT FROOT
HEAVE HO! HEAVE HO!
AAH...
WAIT SORYASHE
WE MUST NOT LET HIM GO!
HE IS ESCAPING WITH THE CURTAIN AS HE SAID!
TA DA DA DA
HE HAS GONE TO THE ROOF!
YOU SAW HIM? WHERE? WHERE?


HA...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY FROM ME!
I'M REALLY SORRY TO TAKE YOUR PRECIOUS TIME
YOU'RE WELCOME, IT'S AN HONOUR..
I WOULD REALLY LIKE TO STAY HERE WITH YOU BUT I HAVE TO GO!
TADAAA
READY!
READY!
READY!
READY!
HE IS ESCAPING! TAKE HIM!
ZK
FWAAS
SORRY FOR DISTURBING..


NOOO-
OOO-
OOO!
COME BACK HERE!
YOU...
THE CURTAIN...

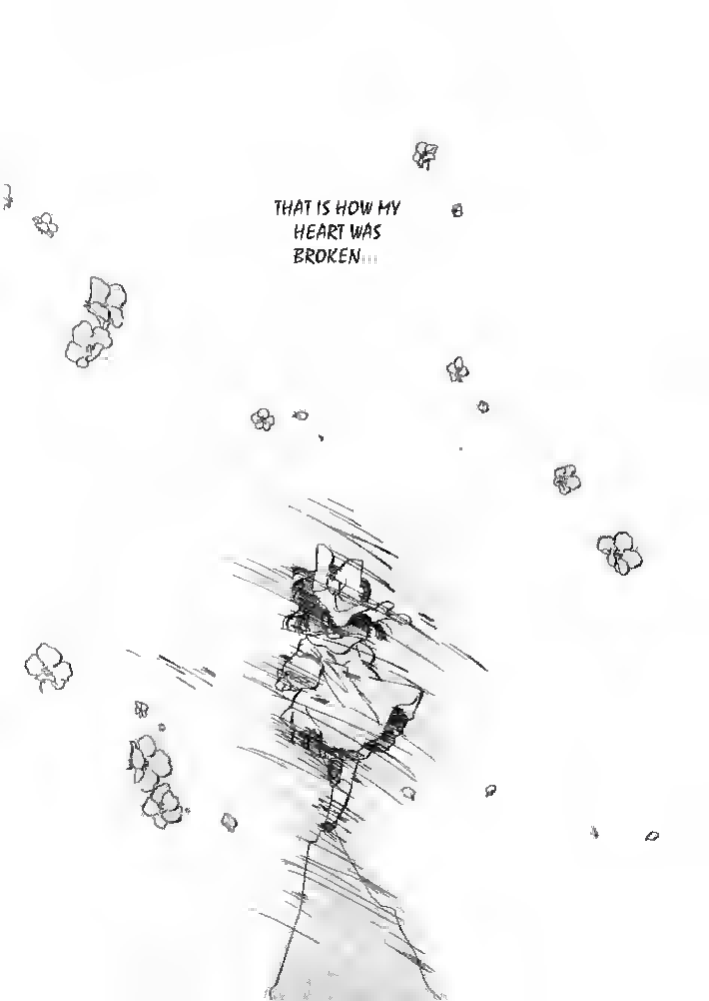

HE MADE IT A BALLOON...
COWARD!
YOU'VE GOT IT COMING TO YOU!


CIP
CIP
LATER!
OH, HI RYŪSUKE!
HI!
FOUTCH FOUTCH FOUTCH
AHHHHHH HHHRG!
HE CAUGHT US AGAIN LAST NIGHT..
WE WERE CLOSE BEHIND, BUT HE MANAGED TO ESCAPE...
IT S REALLY TOO BAD...
AKIRA HAS BEEN REALLY ADORA-BLE NE?
YES IT IS REALLY PERFECT —
THIS CARPET ...
END


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KRUHH
CLAMP NURSERY SCHOOL
I'M VERY FOND OF YOU, UTAKO...
KRUHH
KRUH
YEAH, OF COURSE... NOTHING BUT STORIES
BUT, OUR AGE DIFFERENCE IS TOO LARGE...
WHAT DID I SAY...


YOU RE JUST MY FAVORITE LITTLE STUDENT...
POF POF
POP


THAT IS HOW MY
HEART WAS
BROKEN...


CASE
2
A SHOOTING STAR


Selene Seans



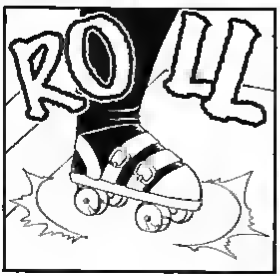
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PROOFREADINGS BY: SELENE


DRIIIING
HEY, ACROBAT! WAIT!
TADADADA
12F
READY
LET US ARREST YOU! THAT'S BETTER FOR YOU!


ROLL


THAT'S NOT TRUU-UUUE!
12F
HAN HAN PFF
ROOL ROOL
FLAP FLAP


HAHAHA! HE GOT YOU AGAIN, EH?
WHAT ARE YOU LAUGHING ABOUT?
HAN HAN
PFFF
KOF KOF
HAAH
PFFF
WE'VE GOT A GOOD REASON TO CHASE HIM
ROOL ROROLL
ROOL ROROLL ROOL ROROLL ROOL
YOU'D THINK YOU WERE AT RUSH HOUR IN BEIJING!
CUT IT OUT!


THE OGAWA RESIDENCE
GRRRRR
HE S VERY FOND OF ME, ISN T HE?
EXCEPT THAT HE GOT THE AGE DIFFE- RENCE PROBLEM!
EVEN IF I M HIS FAVORITE LITTLE STUDENT!
BADOM


KATCHA
HE SIMPLY TRAMPLED ON THE INGENUOUSNESS OF A LADY!
YOU WOULDN T REALLY HAVE TO GO!
TAPOOF
HAN HAN
POF
GOOD EVENING ...


WHO... WHO ARE YOU?
I AM THE ACROBAT
WHAT WHAT
THE ACROBAT ?
I DON'T WISH YOU ANY HARM.
DON'T BE AFRAID
I SHOULDN'T BE AFRAID WHILE IN FACT YOU APPEARED RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?!
YES, OF COURSE SAYING IT THAT WAY..
HAHAHA
POF
EXCUSE ME FOR TALKING NON-SENSE!
THIS ISN'T FUNNY... IF YOU WERE CALLED ACROBAT, YOU MUST BE THAT THIEF, RIGHT?
INDEED...
YOU WERE ON TV...


AH YEAH... IT'S A BIT EMBARRASSING...
THIEVES ARE BAD PEOPLE WHO TAKE OTHER PEOPLE'S THINGS...
—AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT I'VE HEARD...
THERE'S NOTHING TO STEAL IN MY HOUSE... EXCEPT ME, IF I CAN PUT IT THIS WAY..
HAHAHAHA
NO! IT'S BECAUSE I WAS BEING CHASED—
AND THIS WINDOW IS THE CLOSEST ONE, SO I JUMPED IN, THAT'S ALL!
HOW UNROMANTIC...
I ADMIT IT WAS A BIT BLUNT
PLEASE FORGIVE ME FOR BOTHERING YOU!


ER..
CHTO
OMPF
I WOULD BE VERY DELIGHTED IF YOU COULD...
TAKE YOUR FOOT OFF MY CAPE...
YOU INTEND TO LEAVE LIKE THAT WITHOUT EVEN APOLOGIZING FOR BURSTING INTO A YOUNG GIRL'S ROOM IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT?!
OH WELL...
ER, I..
YOU GOTTA STAY WITH ME...
FOR A WHILE!


WHAT'S YOUR NAME?
UTAKO OGAWA
I'M FROM MOON CLASS AT CLAMP NURSERY SCHOOL
I CAN SEE YOU'RE IN BAD MOOD AND I'M SORRY IT'S BECAUSE OF ME..
IT'S NOT YOU...
SO,
MY BROKEN HEART
SOMEONE BEHAVED THE WRONG WAY TOWARDS YOU..
YOU LOOK LOVELY
I AGREE WITH YOU...
MY BEAUTY SHOULD HAVE WON AN AWARD AT MY AGE..


UTAKO WHEN YOU RE IN LOVE, IN YOUR OPINION, WHAT S THE THING YOU SHOULD NEVER FORGET?
MMM,, OTHER IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ONESELF?
WRONG !
THAT S NOT IT,,
TO BEGIN
YOU SHOULD LOVE EACH OTHER MORE THAN EVE- RY THING!
WHY?


BECAUSE
...WHEN YOU RE IN LOVE, YOU WISH THE FEELING IS MUTUAL AND OTHER STAY BESIDE YOU FOR LIFETIME, RIGHT?
I DIDN T ASK FOR A BIG THING JUST MARRIAGE, 3 KIDS AND A HOUSE FOR US, WITHOUT PARENTS
IMAGINE YOU GIVE A PRESENT TO THE ONE YOU LOVE... YOU WOULD EXPECT HIM ALWAYS TO LOOK AFTER YOU, WOULDN T YOU? WHO WOULD GIVE SOMETHING THAT HE DOESN T LIKE TO THE PERSON HE LOVE?!
MM. BUT I HATE MYSELF FOR NOT BEING ABLE TO MAKE THE TEACHER LOVE ME.
WHEN YOU DEVOTE YOURSELF TO A PERSON, YOU WANT THE OTHER PERSON TO LOVE YOU. COULD YOU ASK THAT PERSON TO LOVE YOU, TO GIVE YOU AN OPPORTUNITY, IF HE DOESN'T LOVE YOU?


THERE YOU ARE
IT'S BECAUSE YOU THINK LIKE IT DIDN'T GO WELL...
FRITCH
?
POF
WHAT IS THIS?
CANDY WITH CHOCOLATE FILLING YOU DON'T WANT IT?
I NEVER ATE THIS...
IT'S DELICIOUS!
TO HEAR YOU TALK, IT LOOKS GOOD...
AH, REALLY?
WELL, I'LL TRY IT!
BREAK BREAK


IT'S GOO-OOOOD!
CAN YOU GIVE ME MORE?
WITH PLEASURE!
ENJOY, GET ANGRY—
AND IF YOU WANT IT, SMILE..
BECAUSE A WONDERFUL SMILE IS HIDDEN BEHIND THAT SULKY FACE..
PFLOOP
IT'S ONLY SKIN, FAT AND BONES IN HERE!
PFLOP PFLOP


IT WAS MY TEACHER WHO TAUGHT ME THAT THIEVES ARE BAD PEOPLE..
I THOUGHT IT WAS THE FAIREST AND MOST HONEST PERSON IN THE WORLD ..
BUT HE SAID I WAS WRONG...
WHY ?


HAHAHA...
YOU LOOK SO NICE WHEN YOU SMILE!
IS..IS THAT...IS THAT TRUE?
THE AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HE AND I IS JUST 17 YEARS!


A CHILD IS NOT JUST AN IMMATURE IDIOT. EVERY ADULT IS NOT JUST AN IDIOT WHO IS ON WATCH. THE DISTINCTION BETWEEN THEM DOESN T ONLY COME DOWN TO IT!
BRAOOM
RAH!
IF HE THINKS I M A KID THEN HE DIDN T LOOK AT ME CAREFULLY!
I GOT A SOLUTION
WHAT IS IT?


IF YOU CAN'T ABSOLUTELY FORGET THAT TEACHER...
REMEMBER THAT IT'S ENOUGH TO LOVE FOR BOTH SO THAT YOUR FEELING WILL BECOME MUTUAL...
IT WAS CHEATING! A SWINDLER! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
KABOONG
YOU ONLY HAVE TO FIND A NEW LOVER...


HUMAN BEINGS ARE LIVING THINGS THAT ON EARTH, GOT THE WORST MEMORY WHICH IS..
FALLING IN LOVE AGAIN WILL HEAL YOUR PAIN...
AND SO—
TOUCHY PERSONS YOU LIKE ALSO BECOME AS MANY AS STARS IN THE SKY!
KYAAAAH!
CHOMP
CHOMP
MY HEAD SPINS


ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
FINE, FINE.. OOOH!
NOW IT'S THE EARTH WHICH SPINS...
U... UTAKO?
ZA OO
HOLD ON! YOU GOT TWIN? THERE ARE TWO OF YOU...
ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?
HEY! THE ACROBAT
YES?
YOU SAID THERE WOULD BE PERSONS WHO LOVE ME ARE AS STARS IN THE SKY, EH?
ER, YEAH...
WELL

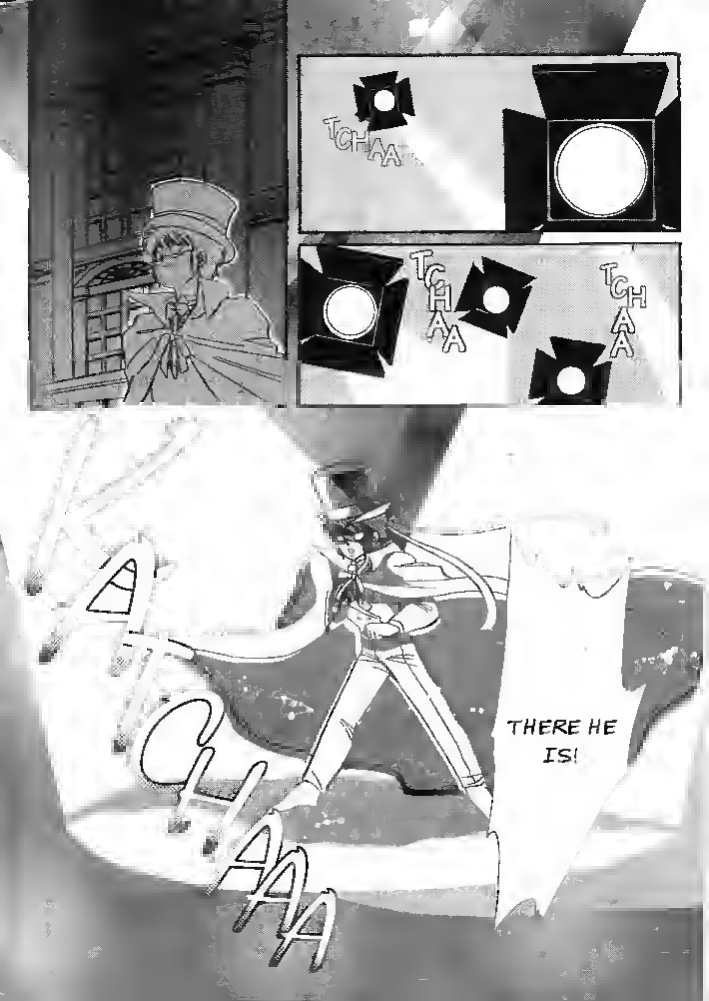

HOHOHOHO
THE NEXT STAR WILL BE YOU!
WHAT ?!
KABOM
GAAAAH
GAAAAH ...
UTAKO! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER! I WILL TAKE YOU TO YOUR BED!
ZZZ


BROKENHEARTED WOMEN ARE FRAGILE... BUT THE WOMEN WHO FALL IN LOVE ARE GIFTED WITH UNIMAGINABLE STRENGTH!
MORE! YOU'RE ALMOST THERE... COME ON...
LISTEN...
TCHOP
I'M LISTENING..
I HATE WEAK MEN!
I DON'T KNOW...
UNTIL WHEN WE CAN BE TOGETHER, PERHAPS IT WILL BE OVER BY TOMORROW...
IF...
IF I'M NOT THERE AND MY LOVER IS SAD OR MISERABLE WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF HIM
IF YOU BECOME MY FIANCE, KNOW THAT I HATE WEAK MEN...




GAAAH...


PAF
I UNDERSTOOD
I LL BE STRONG... FOR YOU!


TCHAA
TCHAA
TCHAA
TCHAA
THERE HE IS!


TA DAAA
THE TIME HAS JUST PAID!
READY
THE MYSTE-RIOUS ACROBAT!
KLOTCH
WHAT THE...
VROOOOOO
FROOOCH
OOOOH
READY


YOU RE A FRIEND OF MY NEPHEW, SO I M GONNA TELL YOU A STORY...
SHIT
KRRRRR
COME BACK! YOU COWARD!
ONCE UPON A TIME, THERE WAS AN OLD MAN WHO PUT ALL HIS EFFORT TO LOOK AFTER HIS CHERRY TREE.. HE BECAME EXHAUSTED TO THE TASK. ON TOP OF THAT, THE TREE DIDN T BLOSSOM...
THE SECOND YEAR OF HARD WORK, HE FINALLY OBTAINED EXTRAORDINARY LIGHT PINK BLOSSOMS. BUT THE FOLLOWING DAY AFTER THE APPEARANCE OF THOSE FLOWERS. THE OLD MAN DIED ALL OF SUDDEN...


THE OLD MAN SURELY JUST CAN'T BEAR THAT HIS AIM WAS ACHIEVED...
INSISTENT EMOTION
...ALL IS FOR SAYING, SOMETIMES IT'S BETTER THAT A DREAM REMAINS A DREAM...
KOBAYASHI, PERHAPS YOU ARE LIKE HIM: WHILE YOU'RE RUNNING AFTER THE FULFILLMENT OF YOUR DREAM, IT WILL MAINTAIN YOU ALIVE, BUT IF YOU CATCH UP WITH IT...
NOT AT ALL! I'M VERY FINE, TRUST ME!
ER... WE'RE TALKING, WE'RE TALKING AND MEANWHILE THE ACROBAT IS GONE...
AAAAAARGH !
RAAR
DOCTOR! YOU WOULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS ON PURPOSE?! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
OF COURSE NOT, LET'S SEE... HAHAHA
VROOOO


UTAKO, TAKE CARE...
YOU REALLY ARE ADORABLE!
THEN THE NEXT STAR WILL BE YOU!
END


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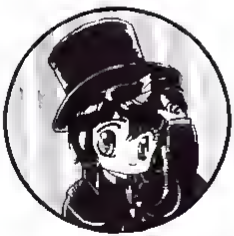


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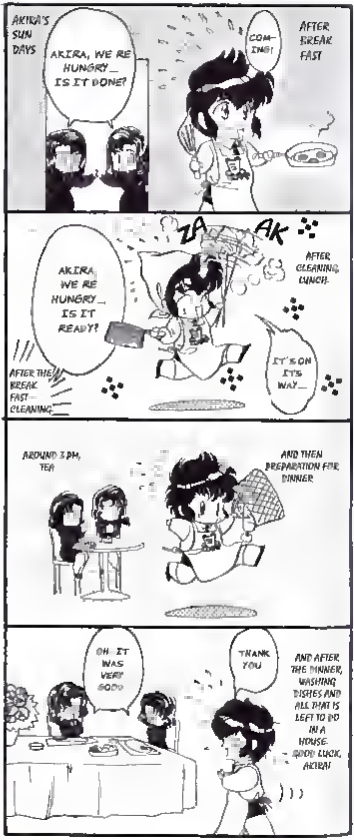
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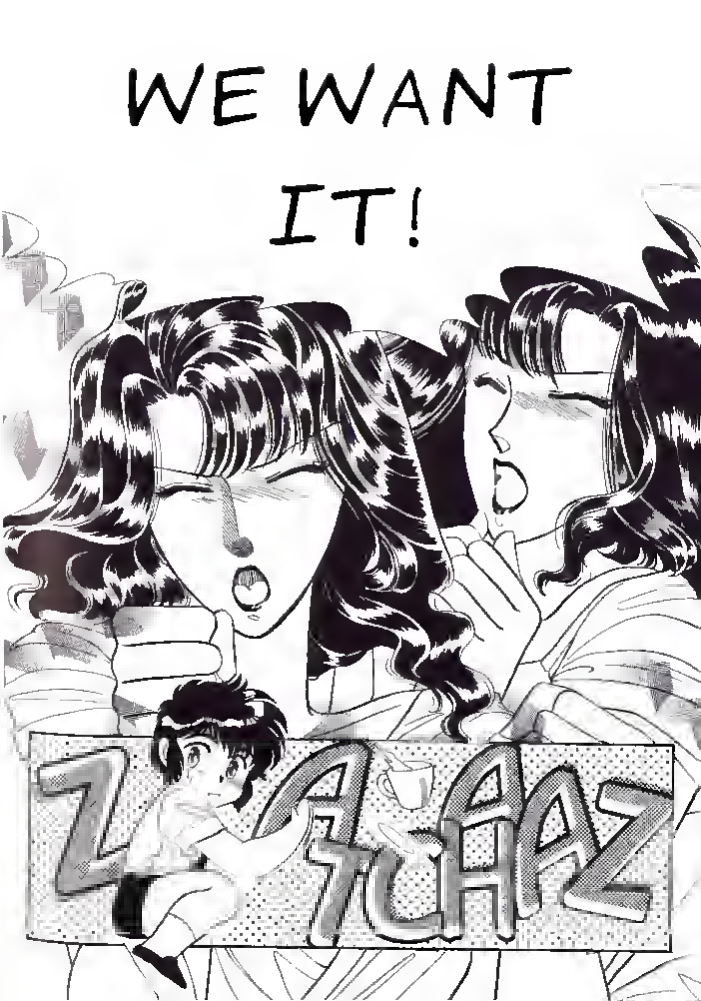
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PROOFREADINGS BY: SELENE
QC BY: SHINKEN



AKIRA IJUUIN, 9 YEARS OLD!

HE'S A FIRST YEAR PRIMARY STUDENT IN CLAMP SCHOOL. DO SUCH MISTREATED CHILD HEROES EXIST? DESPITE HIS YOUNG AGE, HE COMPLETELY TAKES CHARGE OF HIS HOUSE AND HE BRAVELY ENDURES HIS TWO SELFISH MOTHERS... A TRUE GIRLFRIEND MODEL! AND NOW WHILE UTAKO HAS CHOSEN HIM AS HER BOYFRIEND, HE PROBABLY DIDN'T FINISH WORKING LIKE A DOG...



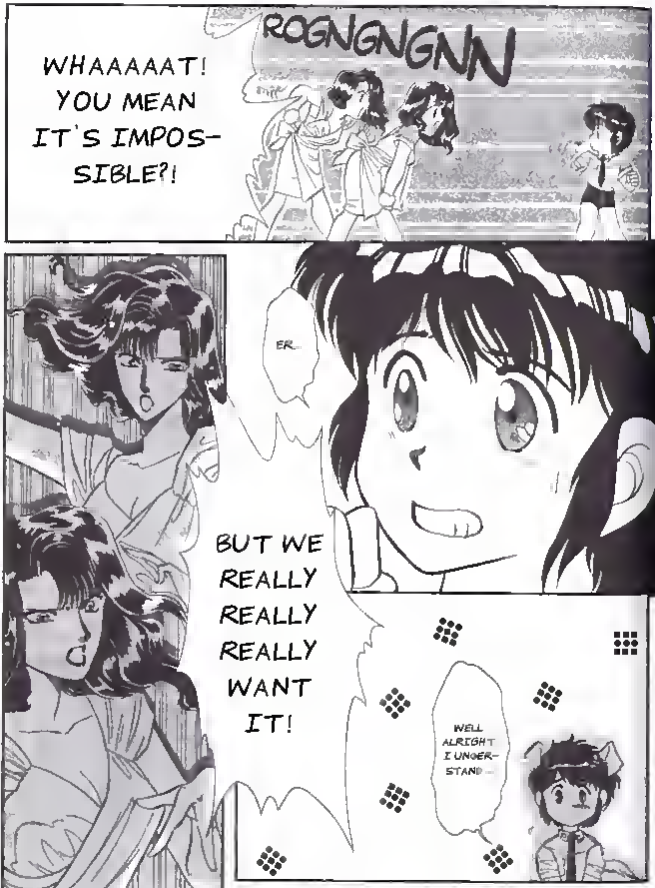

WE WANT
IT!
ZAZAZ


WHAT... WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
GNGN GNGNGN
THAT ONE!
LET'S CONTINUE WITH
OUR...
"GLASS MERMAID"
ITS FOREHEAD IS INLAID WITH A REAL SAPPHIRE OF A VALUE OF 5 MILLIONS!


THIS MERMAID WILL BE THE YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF OGAWA EMPIRE'S BIRTHDAY PRESENT. UTAKO OGAWA, WHO WILL BE 6 YEARS OLD THESE DAYS!
HER FATHER, THE CEO OF THIS EMPIRE, WILL GIVE IT TO HER ON AUGUST 24TH


IT'S— IT'S HER!
IT'S SUPERBLY WELL-DESIGNED—
KYAAAH
YES, THAT'S TRUE!


AKIRA, WE WANT IT!
HUH? BUT... IT'S
IT'S THAT LITTLE GIRL'S BIRTHDAY PRESENT

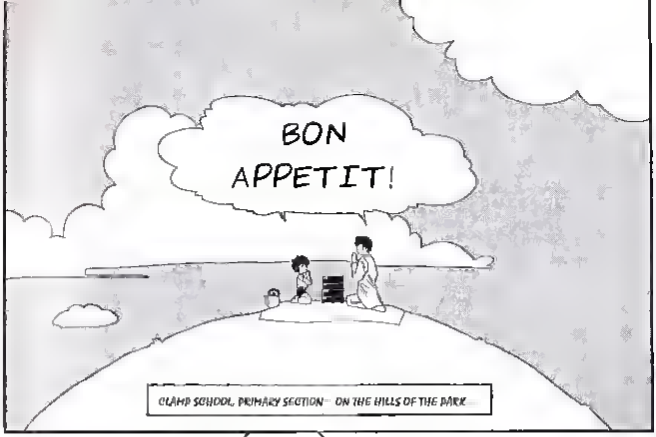

WHAAAAAT! YOU MEAN IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE?!
ROGNGNGNN
ER...
BUT WE REALLY REALLY REALLY WANT IT!
WELL ALRIGHT I UNDER-STAND...

20 MENSHO NI ONEGAI



CASE 3
GLASS MERMAID


GOOD AFTER-NOON!
INFIRMERY
ZIIF
DOCTOR AKECHI, ARE YOU THERE?
AFTER-NOON, AKIRA!
THIS IS DOCTOR AKECHI FROM SCHOOL INFIRMARY HE S ALWAYS CHEERFUL ALWAYS NICE AND ALWAYS KNOWS EVE RYTHING
TAP TAP TAP
WHAT S THE MATTER?
I PREPARED A MEAL...
HE'S WHAT I'D LOVE TO EE LATER...
WE CAN EAT IT TOGETHER IF YOU D LIKE TO?


BON APPETIT!
CLAMP SCHOOL, PRIMARY SECTION — ON THE HILLS OF THE DARK


THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG, ISN'T THERE?
WHAT?
WHEN YOU'VE GOT A PROBLEM, I CAN SEE IT ON YOUR FACE.









I DIDN'T COME TO EAT!




WHY ARE YOU HERE?


KBOM
THE 20 FACES LEFT A MESSAGE AGAIN!


THIS TIME, IT LOOKS AS IF HE WANTS THE GLASS MERMAID WHICH SHOULD BE GIVEN AS A BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR UTAKO OGAWA...


SO DARING! HE LEFT THE MESSAGE RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF IKEBUKURO, IN FRONT OF SUNSHINE 60 IMPORT MART...
IMPORT MART
JUST WHERE THE BIRTHDAY PARTY WILL TAKE PLACE!


20 FACES!
THIS TIME, I'LL GET YOU! YOU WON'T ESCAPE FROM ME!
CLAP CLAP CLAP
COULD!
WILL!
EVEN IF I COULD DIE!


CLAMP
NURSERY SCHOOL
UTAKOO!
I SAW YOU ON TV YESTERDAY!
OH REALLY? YES, THAT'S POSSIBLE...
YOUR BIRTHDAY PRESENT WENT THROUGH THE NEWS.
IT'S VERY CUTE! YOUR FATHER DELIBERATELY DID THIS FOR YOU...


DO YOU THINK THE 2D FACES THREAT LETTER IS TRUE?
IT WASN'T A THREAT LETTER..
SWIIP
BUT IT'S HORRIBLE FOR YOU IF HE STEALS YOUR PRESENT!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
FUUU FUUU


TOO BAD... IF IT ALLOWS ME TO MEET THE 20 FACES, I WON'T CARE...
HUH? ARE YOU CRAZY OR WHAT?!
DESTINY THAT WANTS US TO MEET EACH OTHER.
HAVE YOU MET HIM?!
POOR 20 FACES...
YES, AND WE SWORE WE WOULD MEET AGAIN AND LIVE TOGETHER AFTERWARDS~


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CLAMP

SATSUKI IGARASHI
NANASE OHKAWA
MICK NEKOI
MOKONA APAPA

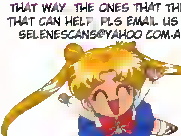
CREDITS:

SCANNED BY: *CLEO*
EDITED BY: *KERRIGAN*
TRANSLATED BY: *OGIRL*
PROOFREADINGS BY: *SELENE*

SELENE_SCANS NEEDS YOUR HELP!!!

WE'RE PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE THIEF WITH 20 FACES IS BACK IN OUR ONGOING PROJECTS!!!!

BUT WE NEED SOME GERMAN TRANSLATORS TO KEEP IT THAT WAY. THE ONES THAT THINK THAT CAN HELP PLS EMAIL US TO: SELENESCANS@YAHOO.COM.AR




BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
BLAH
THE 24TH OF AUGUST
RLD IMPORT MART
In addition, ladies and gentlemen, please direct your attention to this Siren sought after by the Acrobat
My friends, today's meal is made of ice, Utako's food of choice!
Her forehead is adorned with a real sapphire that's worth $15 million
Ladies and gentlemen, we await the Acrobat with this lovely statue in this marvelous place!


BIEP
7:56
HA HA HA !
IT WON'T HAPPEN, THE MEN ARE VIGILANT.
MM NOTHING IS LESS SURE
PAFF
HE HAS ANNOUNCED HIS PLANS TO MOVE AT EXACTLY 8.00 P.M
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
NOTHING ... NOTHING AT ALL ... BY THE WAY ...
THAT CRANE OVER THERE, HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN THERE?
HUH?
WHAT IS THIS? A POWER FAILURE?


IT'S THE ACROBAT!


WHOPP
GET HIM!
DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!
YES, SIR!


IT'S OBVIOUS ...
I WARNED YOU ABOUT THE CRANE ...
HE DID IT!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY! EXCUSE ME! WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE ACROBAT
TAP TAP
BLAH BLAH


EVADING
THERE HE IS!
SWOOSH
ZONG
ZUPP
AAAAAAAAAH

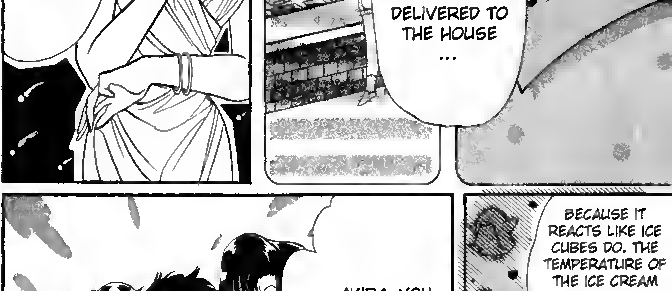

A REAL PRO...
ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL
ROLL ROLL ROLL ROLL
ACROBAT! YOU'RE NOTHING BUT A LOSER!
ROLL ROLL ROLL


THE SIREN HAS DISAP-PEARED!
EYAH
LET ME GO! YOU COME BACK!
KOBAYASHI, PAY ATTEN-TION!
RAAAAH
HEY!
SO WHAT IS THIS LOSER'S TRICK?!
THIS SHOULD NEVER HAVE HAPPENED! IT SHOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN TAKEN LIKE THIS!


VROOOOOM
BYE!
POP
POP
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HUH? IT'S HERE? WHERE IS IT?
I COULDN'T MOVE IT MYSELF. SO I HAD IT DELIVERED HERE.
THE SIREN IS VERY BIG.
WHAT'S WITH ALL THE ICE CREAM?


HERE, INSIDE ...
VANILLA ICE CREAM
HUH?
I CAUGHT HIM HIDING IN THE BIGGEST TUB OF VANILLA ICE CREAM
THE ONE THAT HASN'T BEEN OPENED SINCE THE PARTY YESTERDAY ...
AIEE!
IT'S THE ACROBAT!

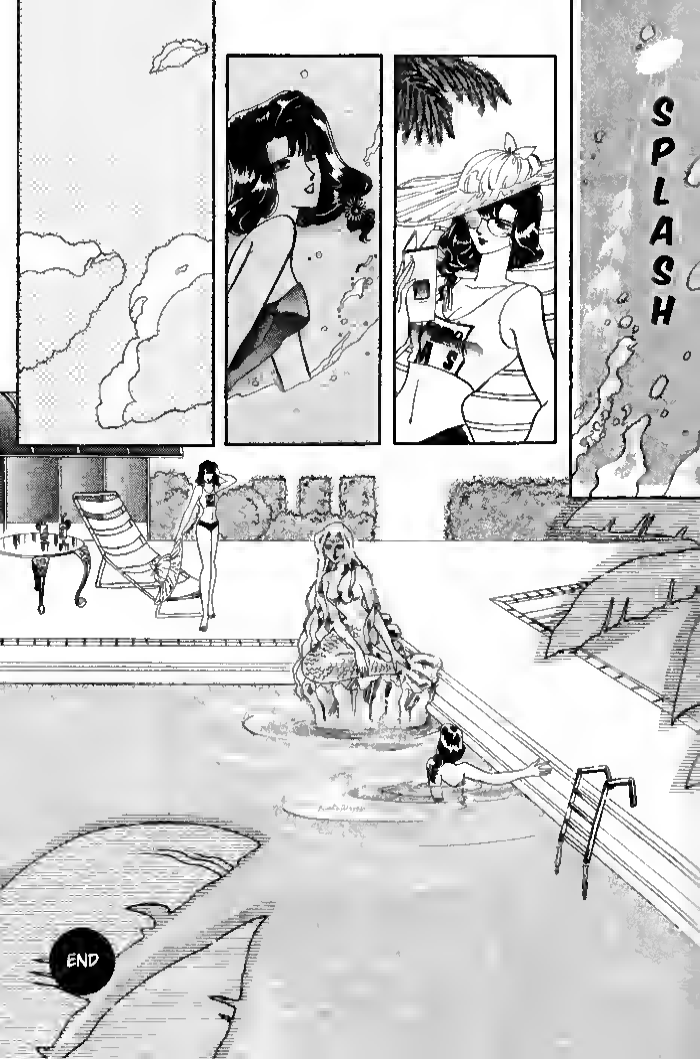

BUT WHY DID YOU CHOOSE VANILLA?
OF COURSE
I WOULD HAVE CHOSEN THE VANILLA ICE CREAM
AND DID NOT HAVE MORE THAN THAT NUMBER DELIVERED TO THE HOUSE ...
I COUNTED THE NUMBER OF TUBS OF ICE CREAM ....


AKIRA, YOU ARE SO SMART! ♡
YES, YOU KNEW INSTANTLY. WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU!
BECAUSE IT REACTS LIKE ICE CUBES DO. THE TEMPERATURE OF THE ICE CREAM HAD TO BE HIGH ENOUGH THAT IMPURITIES COULD ENTER IT ...
IN ORANGE ICE CREAM OR IN STRAWBERRY, UNLESS IT ISN'T SYNTHETIC, THE IMPURITIES IN THE FLESH OF THE FRUIT ARE VERY EASY TO FIND.


BUT UTAKO WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ANGRY ...
HUH? WHAT DID YOU SAY?
DOES SHE HATE ME?
NOTHING ... NOTHING AT ALL ...
THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG, ISN'T THERE?
I'M OFF TO SCHOOL!


DAAASH
AAH!
IT STARTED TO MELT!
QUICKLY! WE NEED TO MAKE THE MOST OF IT NOW!
UTAKO-CHAAAN!
THE ACROBAT HAS ESCAPED AGAIN ...
THE DOCTOR DIDN'T TELL US ABOUT THE CRANE SOON ENOUGH!


UTAKO IS WEARING MY RIBBON
WH...T'S WRONG?
AH ...
IN HER HAIR!
NOTHING.
HE-HEY! GIVE ME A SECOND!
LET'S GO RYOSUKE-SAN!


SPLASH
END


GOOD EVENING
AKIRA AND UTAKO MEET EVERY FRIDAY EVENING
BOTH OF THEM ENJOY THOSE MEETINGS!
BUT
BLAM
SPLASH
AAAHH! WATCH IT!
IT'S HARD FOR A KINDERGARDEN KID TO STAY UP TILL AFTER 10 O'CLOCK
SNORE
SNORE
SNORE




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HMMM...
BUOOOH
CREEAAK
WAMM
UWAAAH


THE
ANNOUNCEMENT


DEAR MOTHER ...
AKIRA
WOULD YOU MIND NOT TO SCARE ME LIKE THAT AT NIGHT!
MAMAN
MAMAN
BUT WE SAW SOMETHING TERRIFIC!
AND WE HAD TO TELL YOU THAT AS LONG AS OUR ENTHUSIASM WAS STILL FRESH!
AND WHAT DID YOU SEE THIS TIME?
AKIRA


DRAG
DRAG
WHAT'S SO GREAT IN THE SUN-PARLOR?
UWAH!


WELL, ISN'T THAT FANTAS-TIC?
WE JUST HAD TO SHOW YOU THAT AND THAT'S WHY WE WOKE YOU UP!
THANK YOU SO MUCH, DEAR MOTHER!
AKIRA LIKES IT!
DANCE
DANCE
AKIRA LIKES IT!
I GOT IT! WHAT ABOUT SLEEPING HERE ALTOGE-THER TONIGHT?
A GREAT IDEA! EXCELLENT!
DON'T YOU THINK SO TOO, AKIRA?
OH YEAH!



*ORIGIN: KIDO KEIJI JIBAN, A THRILLER- AND ACTION-SERIES FROM 1984 WITH A ROBOT HERO


HEH? WHY IS EVERYONE SHOVING IN FRONT OF THIS BOARD?
SHOVE
SHOVE
WHAT'S UP THERE?
20 MASKS WILL STRIKE MISS UTAKO OHKAWA AGAIN! WHAT HE HAS AN EYE ON IS STILL UNKNOWN!

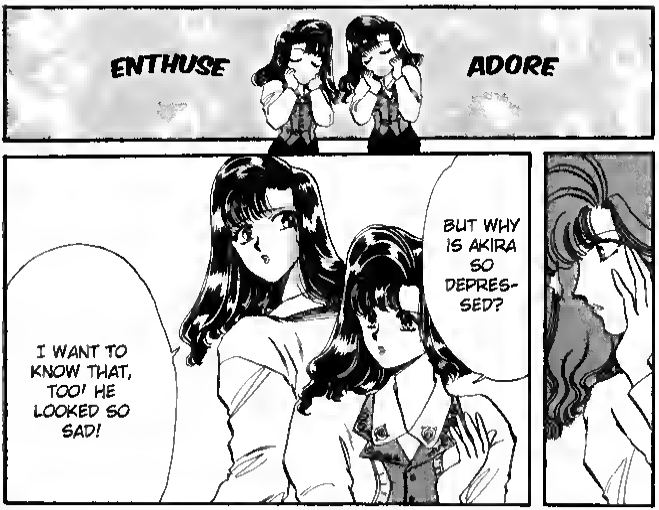

WHAAAT?!
GRRR
WHAT A LOUSY VILLAIN! HE STRIKES UTAKO OHKAWA AGAIN?! HOW DEGENERATE CAN ONE BE TO BE ABLE TO ROB AN INNOCENT KINDERGARTEN CHILD?
GONG GONG GONG
DAFF
WHO STOMPS ON THE DREAMS OF CHILDREN WILL GET HIS BONES CRUSHED!
THAT'S WHAT ROBOCOP JIBAN HAS ALWAYS SAID, TOO.


I DON'T PLAN ANYTHING LIKE THAT!
JUST WAIT, "20 MASKS"! I, RYUSUKE KOBAYASHI, WILL PERSONALLY ENSURE THAT YOU WILL BE PUNISHED!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
DARN, I DIDN'T PUT ANY ANNOUNCEMENT IN UTAKO-SAN'S HOUSE!
THEREFORE SOMEBODY ELSE DISGUISES HIMSELF AS "20 MASKS"!
DAMN, AND WHY MUST UTAKO-SAN BE THE VICTIM?
JUST WHEN RECENTLY HER BIRTHDAY PRESENT HAS ALREADY BEEN STOLEN ...
NOW HE REMEMBERS THAT HE HIMSELF WAS THE MALEFACTOR.


... UTAKO-SAN WILL
AFTER RECEIVING SUCH AN ANNOUNCE-MENT AGAIN
"20 MAIDENS WILL COME AGAIN TO THE VILLA OF UTAKO OHKAWA!
... HATE ME FROM THE BOTTOM OF HER HEART!!
SHOCK
... SURLY ...
CRAWL CRAWL
BOHOO!


I'M BACK ...
NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, AKIRA!
YOUR "CREME BAVAROIS" IS SO DELICIOUS!
HEY! HE LOOKS SO SAD!
I WILL BE IN MY ROOM UNTIL DINNER!
PADAMM

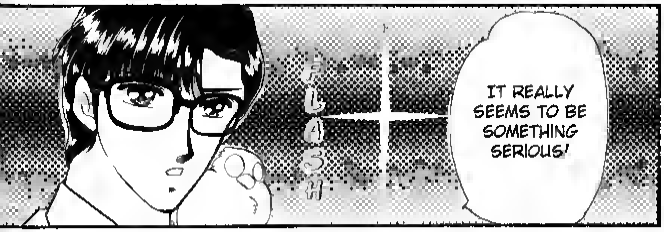

KYAH!
BANG
MAYBE HE WAS ATTACKED BY A ...
KANGA-ROO ON HIS WAY BACK!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM?
OH MY GOD! WHAT IF IT WAS AN OKINAWA-RALLE!
OH NO! OR BY A MUNGO!
YES, AND HE WAS JUST THE GREATEST GREATEST MAN OF THE WORLD!
AND HE LOOKS EXACTLY LIKE "HIM"!
BUT AKIRA'S COOKING IS JUST GREAT!

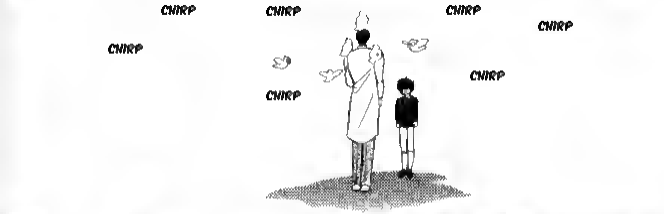

ENTHUSE
ADORE
BUT WHY IS AKIRA SO DEPRES-SED?
I WANT TO KNOW THAT, TOO! HE LOOKED SO SAD!

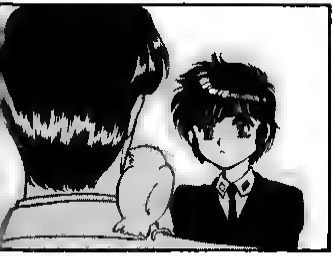

HELPLESS

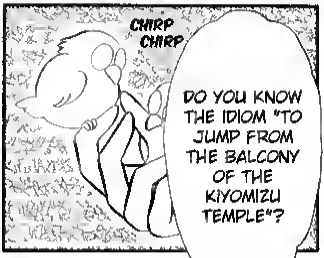

ON THE NEXT DAY
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
HELLO, AKIRA-KUN!
GOOD DAY TO YOU!
CHIRP
CHIRP
YOU DON'T LOOK VERY HAPPY!
DID SOME-THING HAP-PEN?


...


FLASH!
IT REALLY SEEMS TO BE SOMETHING SERIOUS!


CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP




CHIRP
CHIRP
DO YOU KNOW THE IDIOM "TO JUMP FROM THE BALCONY OF THE KIYOMIZU TEMPLE"?


IN KYOTO THERE'S THE FAMOUS KIYOMIZU TEMPLE WHOSE BALCONY IS VERY HIGH ABOVE THE GROUND.
NEVERTHELESS, NOBODY WHO JUMPED FROM THE BALCONY HAS EVER DIED.
THE IDIOM HAS TWO MEANINGS. ONE, THAT A PERSON WHO IS WILLING TO DIE, OUT OF HIS GREAT DESPAIR, CAN MANAGE ANYTHING. ANOTHER MEANING CAN BE, THAT IT'S VERY SHAMEFUL TO SCARE THE WHOLE WORLD BY JUMPING AND THEN TO SURVIVE.
AND THERE IS ALSO A THIRD MEANING HIDDEN. IF YOU ARE AWARE OF ALL THOSE THINGS, YOU SHOULD ABSOLUTELY DO IT!


THE PERSONS ON THE OTHER HAND, WHO PREFER TO DO NOTHING, HAVEN'T GOT THE RIGHT TO COMPLAIN ABOUT WANTING TO SOLVE THEIR PROBLEM
EVEN IF YOU ARE GONNA BE LAUGHED AT, YOU CAN ACHIEVE ANYTHING WHEN YOU REALLY WANT TO SOLVE YOUR PROBLEM.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AKECHI-SENSEI!
BOW
YOU ARE RIGHT.
I WILL DO MY BEST.


PLEASE TAKE THEM AS A SIGN OF MY GRATITUDE!
BOW
I BAKED THEM MYSELF!
AH, I ALMOST FORGOT!
SEARCH SEARCH
TRAPP TRAPP TRAPP
CHIRP
HE IS VERY SIMILAR TO "HIM"!
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
CHIRP
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
HERE FOR YOU
ALSO CONCERNING HIS INCREDIBLE COOKING SKILLS!


THE DAY OF THE ANNOUNCED CRIME
I HOPE THAT AKIRA WILL BE ALRIGHT!
I WOULD BE SO UNCONSOLABLE IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO HIM!
ME, TOO!
I WILL TAKE A LOOK IN ANY CASE!
I'VE GOT AN IDEA! WE WILL FOLLOW HIM SO THAT WE CAN HELP HIM IN THE WORST CASE!
A GREAT IDEA! LET'S DO IT, LET'S DO IT!


THE RESIDENCE OF THE OHKAWA FAMILY...
HA HA HA
ALL THE GUARDS WEAR THEIR WINTER UNIFORMS, SO NOTHING CAN GO WRONG ANYMORE!
THIS NIGHT WE ARE REALLY WELL PREPARED!
FLASH
HA HA HA HA HA HA
COME ON, IF YOU ARE BRAVE ENOUGH, "20 MASKS"!


UTAKO-SAN!!
I FEEL LIKE A PERVERT ....
RATTER
I'VE ALREADY AWAITED YOU!


TODAY I'VE ONLY COME TO EXPLAIN YOU SOME-THING ...
THIS ANNOUNCE-MENT ...
...
I WROTE IT!
FALL
WHAT?
I WROTE IT MYSELF!
W-W-WHY?
...


I WANTED TO SEE YOU!
BECAUSE...
BUT I HAVEN'T GOT THE SLIGHTEST IDEA WHERE YOU LIVE.
PULL
PULL
I'VE GOT SOMETHING THAT I ABSOLUTELY WANT TO GIVE TO YOU!
I ALREADY KNEW THAT YOU WOULD SURELY COME AS THE HONEST PERSON YOU ARE.
WHAT?
THAT'S WHY I WROTE AN ANNOUNCEMENT.
SIT DOWN!


I'VE BAKED A CAKE FOR YOU!
I'VE BEEN OCCUPIED WITH IT SINCE EARLY IN THIS MORNING!
CUT
AH ... UTAKO-SAN!
AND WHILE DOING IT I'VE NOTICED ...
... THAT IT'S TRUE WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING. A WOMAN WHO'S IN LOVE CANNOT THINK CLEARLY ANYMORE!
THOUGH I'M UTAKO OHKAWA, IT TOOK ME 3 MONTHS TO COME UP WITH SUCH A STRATEGY!


LITAKO-SAN! I WANT TO TELL YOU AGAIN HOW SORRY I AM ...
...ABOUT STEALING YOUR BIRTHDAY PRESENT ...
BUT THE RIBBON MADE ME HAPPIER THAN THE MERMAID!
HERE FOR YOU!
SSST
WHAT'S THAT?
JUST TAKE A LOOK!
I THOUGHT THAT YOU OFTEN MIGHT GET COLD HANDS AT YOUR WORK ...


SHINE
MY MOM TAUGHT ME HOW TO KNIT
UNFORTUNATELY, I'M NOT READY TO KNIT FIVE FINGERS ON IT AT THE MOMENT.
BUT NEXT YEAR I CAN DO THAT FOR SURE!
TELL ME, AREN'T YOU OFTEN AFRAID AS A THIEF?
E.G., WHEN YOU WERE ON TOP OF THE CRANE LAST TIME OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT
WELL, I WAS MORE AFRAID THAT...
YOU WOULD HATE ME BECAUSE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT!


MAYBE IT'S DUE TO THE WINTER'S COLD ...
CRONK
THAT WAS UNCALLED FOR!
... BUT TODAY I FEEL SURPRI-SINGLY COURA-GEOUS ...
RATTLE
RUMBLE
FALL


TRAPP
TRAPP
TRAPP
TRAPP
DO-DO-DO -DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE!
CATCH THOSE BUNNIES!

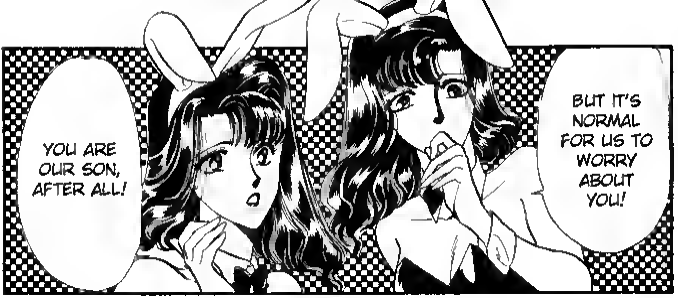

THEY WENT THERE!
TRAPP TRAPP
KYAAAH!
COME HERE!
CLACK
SHIGE-TAKA-SAN!
KYAAH! IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME!
SWISH
QUICK ... USE THAT FOR FLYING!


YOU JUST HAVE TO HOLD ON TO IT!
AND HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO THAT!
KYAH!
KYAH!
FUWAH
TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOURSELVES, MY LADIES!


IF YOU WANT TO SEE ME, I WILL MEET YOU ANYTIME!
FUPP
NEXT TIME YOU DON'T NEED TO WRITE AN ANNOUNCE-MENT!
I'M NOT SO EGOISTIC AS TO WANT YOU ALL THE TIME AROUND ME!
AFTER ALL, I THINK IT'S NONSENSE THAT YOU'LL GET AUTO-MATICALLY HAPPY WHEN YOU'RE ALL THE TIME TOGETHER.
I PREFER TO LEARN VARIOUS THINGS FOR YOU THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ... AND THAT WORKS BETTER WHEN YOU ARE NOT WITH ME.
THIS WAY I WILL BECOME A MUCH BETTER WOMAN.
THOUGH I'M ALREADY PRETTY GOOD


BUT ...
... I STILL WANT TO SEE YOU FROM TIME TO TIME! BECAUSE IF YOU LOVE A CELEBRITY, YOU NATURALLY WORRY.
SO LONG ...
NEXT TIME YOU WILL COME TO VISIT ME!
I WILL COME FOR SURE!
ALL IN ALL IT'S JUST A BURDEN FOR THE MAN WHEN THE INITIATIVE COMES TOO OFTEN FROM THE WOMAN!


HOW COULD YOU DO SUCH A FOOL-HARDY THING?!
PREACH
PREACH
PREACH
PREACH
PREACH
I DON'T WANT TO IMAGINE WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPEN TO YOU! WHAT IF YOU HAD GOTTEN HURT?
ASHAMED
BUT YOU WERE SO SAD . .
THAT'S WHY WE WANTED TO HELP YOU A LITTLE BIT ...
TWITCH
WE ARE SO SORRY!
NO, I'M SORRY FOR MAKING YOU WORRY ABOUT ME! I'M SORRY!


BUT IT'S NORMAL FOR US TO WORRY ABOUT YOU!
YOU ARE OUR SON, AFTER ALL!


LIKE "HIM"?
LIKE YOUR FATHER AND OUR HUSBAND!


JUST NOW WHEN YOU GOT SO ANGRY ...
... YOU LOOKED SO MUCH LIKE "HIM".
THAT'S RIGHT ...


HE WAS A GREAT MAN AND IN THE DISGUISE OF "20 MASKS" HE LOOKED SO FANTASTIC!
HE WAS A GREAT COOK. VERY INTELLIGENT, GOOD-NATURED AND ALWAYS FRIENDLY. JUST LIKE YOU, AKIRA!
AFTER ALL YOU ARE HIS SON AND "HE" MARRIED TWO FANTASTIC WOMEN LIKE US!
AND YOU WILL SURELY FIND A WONDERFUL WOMAN AND MARRY HER!
FOR SURE!
YUP!
THAT'S RIGHT!


YES AND WHAT A GREAT LANDING WE MADE!
...
IT'S LOOKS REALLY CUTE IN THE DAY-LIGHT!
HUUU





THESE ARE MOMMY A AND MOMMY B. AGE UNKNOWN AND AKIRA'S MOTHERS. WHY HE HAS GOT TWO MOTHERS ISN'T REALLY CLEAR. BUT CONSIDERING THAT THEY USE THEIR SON AS A THIEF AS THOUGH THEY ARE SUPER RICH, YOU CAN ONLY THINK OF THEM AS HORRIBLE MOTHERS.





UNDER THE CIRCLE THAT'S SHIGETAKA AKECHI 25 YEARS OLD AND DOCTOR AT THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF THE CLAMP CAMPUS HIS TEXTS ARE ALWAYS VERY LONG BECAUSE HE LOVES TO TEACH THE YOUNGER ONES VIA HIS PREACHES OVER MANY PAGES IN EVENT 4 IT SLOWLY BECOMES CLEAR THAT HE'S AKIRA'S UNCLE

THAT'S RYUSUKE KOBAYASHI, 16 YEARS OLD AND PUPIL OF THE TENTH GRADE AT THE CLAMP CAMPUS HE'S THE SECOND SON OF THE OWNER OF A SUSHI-BAR CALLED "TORAYA" IT'S QUESTIONABLE IF THE MYSTERY WHY HE AS A SCHOOL SENIOR CAN HAVE A WHOLE COMPANY OF GUARDS IS EVER SOLVED


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CREDITS:

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EDITED BY: CONNIE
TRANSLATED BY: SHUH-HUOR
PROOFREADINGS BY: SELENE


I DON'T WANT "ALWAYS" THE SAME AND I DON'T BELIEVE IN "ETERNAL" LOVE
BECAUSE ALWAYS "THE SAME" IS KIND OF BORING!
I WANT TO LOVE YOU MORE THAN BEFORE, MORE THAN NOW AND I WANT TO
BUT I ALSO KNOW THAT THE ROAD TO THE "GREAT LOVE" IS FULL OF HINDRANCES


EVENT 5
The Secret Friday
PRESS
STAFF
CLAMP
CLAMP


Living room of the Ohkawa-residence
AND NOW TO OUR NEXT REPORT...
I WOULD SAY THAT S A FEAT, BECAUSE THE JEWELLER SHOP WAS SURROUNDED BY A BUNCH OF GUARDS LIKE ALWAYS...
MOKONA
NEW
THE INFAMOUS "THIEF WITH THE 20 MASKS" HAS STOLEN THE HOLY SWORD "RG VEDA" FROM THE JEWELLER SHOP "NT".
NEKO!
HE'S STILL ACTIVE!
"20 MASKS" COULD NEVERTHELESS TAKE THE SWORD AT EXACTLY 12:30H, LIKE HE ANNOUNCED, AND HE WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE VIA A LADDER.


THAT "20 MASKS" HAS AFFLICTED YOU QUITE MUCH, HASN'T HE, UTAKO!?
FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN HE HAD STOLEN YOUR BIRTHDAY PRESENT THIS YEAR!
THAT WAS SO OBVIOUS! HE'S AFTER ALL "20 MASKS".
IT SEEMS LIKE YOUR DESTINY IS TIGHTLY BONDED TO THE ONE OF "20 MASKS", UTAKO!
WUPP
AN ANNOUCE-MENT!
APROPOS! DIDN'T YOU RECENTLY RECEIVE A SECOND THREATENING LETTER?


BUT AFTER THIS ANNOUNCE-MENT....
THA....T-T-T-T-T-T-THAT'S NOT RIGHT!
AH!
...NOTHING WAS STOLEN!
YOU ...Y-Y-YOU SEEM TO BE RIGHT!
H-HE TOOK MY CAKE!
YOUR CAKE?
HE JUST ATE IT!
RIGHT!
THE CAKE WHICH I BAKED WITH MOM THAT DAY!
REALLY? AND JUST WHEN YOU PUT SALT IN IT INSTEAD OF SUGAR!


WHAAT!?
WELL, BECAUSE THIS FIASCO REMINDED ME OF A VERY OLD AND BAD JOKE WITH WHICH YOU CAN'T AMUSE ANYONE NOWADAYS
W-WHY DIDN'T YOU SAY ANYTHING, MAKO!?
SHOCK
DON'T YOU KNOW! WHEN WE FETCHED THE CAKE FROM THE OVEN, IT SMELLED LIKE A ROASTED O-NIGIRI! CAKE THE BACK IS BLACK
A CA-CAKE LIKE A ROASTED O-NIGIRI...!?


YOU CAN GET CANCER IF YOU EAT SOMETHING BURNT. CAN'T YOU, DADDY?!
MY, HOW INTELLIGENT YOU ARE, MAKO!
FIRST WE MIXED UP THE INGREDIENTS...
UUUH
...AND THEN THE CAKE WAS TOTALLY BURNT, TOO! AND SUCH A THING I GAVE TO MY DARLING!?
BUT TELL ME, MAKO! HOW DID YOU KNOW WHAT THE CAKE HAS TASTED LIKE!?
DON'T WORRY! I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO EAT SOAP THAN TO TRY IT!
I THINK
...I HATE YOU AT THE MOMENT, SISTER!


CRIMINY!
THEN YOU SHOULD VENT YOUR ANGER AS FAST AS POSSIBLE!
Rubber hammer
WOOOSH
HERE! WITH THIS YOU CAN LET OFF STEAM TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT!
Board game cubes
WHAT GORGEOUS DAUGHTERS WE HAVE!
sniff
HAAACH!
YEAH! YEAH!
PAFF PAFF
CRIMINY! YOU FOOL OF A FATHER!
PAFF PAFF
HA HA HA


THE LUNCH IS READY!
YEEAAH! ♥
SWUUUSH
SWUUUSH
!


BADONK
UWAAAH!
WUPP
WHERE'S OUR LUNCH!?
WHERE'S OUR LUNCH!?
WOW!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
I COULD BARELY SAVE IT!


I'D LOVE TO!
DO YOU WANT AN EGG SANDWICH?
YES!
Here!
GLITTER
GLITTER
DO YOU STILL WANT SOME MILK TEA?
SMILE
SMILE
WHAT? HOW?
REALLY?
I'VE NOTICED THAT, TOO! DID SOMETHING GOOD HAPPENED TO YOU?
YOU'VE LATELY GOT SUCH A GOOD MOOD, AKIRA!


YOU'RE STUTTERING, AKIRA!
RE-RE-RE-RE-RE-REALLY?
BUT YES! YOUR HAPPINESS IS WRITTEN ALL OVER YOUR FACE!
DAAASH
AH! I FORGOT THE LEMON!
I'LL QUICKLY GO AND FETCH SOME!
FUCHTEL
HEY!
YOU'VE STUTTERED AGAIN!
WAVE
AB-AB-AB-AB-AB-AB-AB-ABSOLUTELY NOT... I-I-I-I-I BEHAVE COMPLETELY NORMAL!
HE IS... DEFINITELY IN LOVE!
...BUT I WANTED TO HAVE MY TEA WITH MILK!


PATSH
HE'S SURLY IN LOVE!
I'VE GOT THE SAME FEELING, TOO!
THE ONLY QUESTION IS WHO IS IT!?
WWTT
SHE PROBABLY HAS GOT TWO EYES AND ONE NOSE!
CERTAINLY! CERTAINLY!
IT'S FOR SURE THE PRETTIEST GIRL FAR AND WIDE!
AND, OF COURSE, A MOUTH
HOW CUTE! AND SHE HAS GOT EARS, TOO!
PLOFF
FURTHERMORE SHE HAS GOT A BUSHY TAIL


AND SHE HAS GOT BROWN HAIR WHICH IS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL!
IT WOULD BE GREAT IF SHE COULD BARK!
Give paw?
Sit?
EXACTLY, AND TO GIVE PAW AND SIT ON DEMAND!
HEY? SHE CAN BALANCE ON A BALL, TOO?
RAVE
melt
I ALMOST FORGOT OUR HUSBAND ADORED DOGS, TOO, DIDN T HE!?
Guilty?
AH...
ABOUT WHAT DID WE SPEAK?
GOOGLE!


KNOCK
KNOCK
Okkawa-residence...
ZUPP
"ARTICLE 22 OF THE CONSTITUTION"
"THE RIGHT OF FREE CHOICE FOR THE PROFESSION".
YOU QUOTE THE CONSTITUTION? YOU ALREADY KNOW OF SUCH THINGS!?
WAMM
NONSENSE. THAT WAS JUST ADVERTISING!


NO, I HAVE TO SAY SORRY FOR SOMETHING!
I HOPE, I DON T DISTURB YOU!
FOR WHAT?
WHAT WAS THE MATTER WITH THAT CAKE?
FOR THE CAKE WHICH I OFFERED YOU LAST TIME!


IT SURLY TASTED DISGUSTING!
BECAUSE I MIXED UP SUGAR WITH SALT!
ON TOP OF THAT IT WAS BURNT
I M SO SORRY!!
WUPP
B-BUT WHY!?
YOU RE LYING!!
CRONK
TWITCH
BUT NO! IT WAS REALLY DELICIOUS!


BUT A CAKE IN WHICH WAS SALT INSTEAD OF SUGAR...
...CAN'T BE DELI-CIOUS IN ANY WAY!
I DON'T LIE! THE MOST IMPORTANT THING FOR ME WAS THAT YOU BAKED THE CAKE YOURSELF.
THEN THE TASTE IS SECOND-RATE!


BLUSH
PUUUH!
KRONK
I HAVE TO LEAVE YOU NOW
YO-YO-YO-YO-YOU ARE WELCOME I MEAN I - EHM -
THANK YOU FOR SAYING THAT!
ALREADY?
TOMORROW THERE S THIS MARATHON AT THE KINDER-GARTEN AND THEN YOU SHOULD BE WELL RESTED!


HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
BECAUSE IT'S LINKED TO YOU...
MOVED
pull
I-I CAN'T TELL HER, THAT I ALWAYS WATCH HER FROM A TREE!
SEE YOU NEXT FRIDAY!
DO YOU PERHAPS WANT SOMETHING? IF YOU LIKE CAKE, I COULD BAKE ONE THIS TIME...
SO LONG...


I WANT YOU!
WAVE
WHEN YOU LL COME, I LL BE SO HAPPY THAT I DON T NEED ANYTHING ELSE!
AND I LL PRACTICE HARD UNTIL NEXT FRIDAY SO THAT I CAN BAKE YOU A REAL CAKE!
I'M ALREADY LOOKING FORWARD TO IT!
WOOOSH


SWALLOW
STAYING UP SO LONG ISN T GOOD FOR THE SKIN, UTAKO!
peer.
MA-
YOU RE STUTTER-ING, UTAKO!
MA-MA-MA-MA-MAKO!!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE!?
SHOCK


GRRR
WHERE ON EARTH DOES A FIRST-GRADER RECITE SUTRE!
I THINK, IT S NOT MORE UNCOMMON THAN A KINDERGARTEN CHILD WHO HAS A DATE IN THE NIGHT, ISN T IT?
OH WELL..
UH ..
MY HEART IS BROKEN AND I JUST COULDN T SLEEP. THAT S WHY I THOUGHT I COULD RECITE SOME SUTRE!
PADAMM
OH ..NO..
AH! SO THAT WAS THE THIEF WITH THE 20 MASKS!
HIS NAME IS "20 MASKS"!
BUT I WOULDN T HAVE THOUGHT THAT YOU RE ACQUAINTED WITH A THIEF LIKE ARSENE LUPIN!


NO, I DON'T.
BUT DO YOU REALLY...
. KNOW WHO HE IS, UTAKO?
SHAKE
AND HIS NAME?
DON T KNOW.
YOU OFTEN HEAR ADULTS SAYING "I WAS DECEIVED!" OR "THIS PERSON BETRAYED ME!"
CRIMINY!
IF I GET DIS-APPOINTED IT S MY OWN FAULT
AND SUCH A PERSON YOU EVEN-TUALLY WANT TO MARRY?
BUT HONESTLY, I THINK SUCH PEOPLE ARE JUST TOM-FOOLS.


BECAUSE WITH SUCH WORDS YOU DIRTY THE LOVE YOU ONCE HAD.
IF YOU GET DECEIVED OR ABANDONED THEN IT S NOT ONLY THE FAULT OF ONE PERSON.
AFTER ALL, TWO PEOPLE ARE STILL RESPONSIBLE FOR A GOOD COURSE OF A RELATIONSHIP OR ITS BREAK-DOWN.
AWESOME!
CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP
THEN I WOULD SUGGEST THAT YOU BAKE A CREAM TART TOMORROW IF YOU DON T WANT MOM AND DAD TO HEAR FROM IT!
SISTER! DO YOU WANT TO BLACK-MAIL ME?
HO HO HO HO HO HO
NO! I JUST WANT TO HELP YOU!
DO YOU REALLY HAVE GOT SUCH A BAD PERSON-ALITY?


Residence of the family Jiwin...
O-ON FRIDAY?
EXACTLY!
THIS FRIDAY THERE S AN EXHIBITION OF A SPECIAL ROSE TREE CALLED "SWEET CANDY" IN THE FLOWER GARDEN OF HIBIYA!
WE JUST SAW IT ON TV!


THE PRINCE DIED VERY EARLY!
THIS ROSE WAS GROWN BY A NOBLEMAN CALLED "PRINCE OF THE GREEN HILL" AND THERE'S ONLY ONE ROSE TREE ON THE WHOLE WORLD.
IT'S SAID, THAT "SWEET CANDY" WAS THE NAME WHICH HE GAVE HIS DARLING! HOW ROMANTIC! ♡
HE'S SUPPOSED TO HAVE FALLEN FROM A HORSE, THE POOR ONE... I HAD TO CRY WHEN I HEAR THAT!
...IN OTHER WORDS...
ME, TOO!


AND NOW ALL TOGETHER!
WITH MUCH FERVOUR!
WE ABSOLUTELY MUST HAVE THIS ROSE!!!
FLIIED
bounce
D-DOES IT HAVE TO BE ON THIS FRIDAY?


KYAH
KYAH
KYAH
YI-YIKES!
IF AKIRA WILL STEAL THIS ROSE FOR US, WE CAN PRODUCE AN EXTRA-JUMMY MARMELADE FROM IT!
LET'S DO IT, LET'S DO IT!
BUT OF COURSE! YOU CAN ONLY ADMIRE THIS ROSE FOR ONE DAY IN HIBIYA AND AFTERWARDS IT WILL BE SHIPPED TO AMERICA, AGAIN!
tremble
W-WHAT SHOULD I DO!? THIS FRIDAY I HAVE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH UTAKO-SAN AND SHE ESPECIALLY WANTED TO BAKE A CAKE FOR OUR MEETING!
CRIMINY! WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW!?
MISERABLE


YOU DON T WANT TO BREAK YOUR PROMISE, BUT YOU SEE NO OTHER POSSIBILITY THAN TO DO THAT?
GORGE
STUFF
EXACTLY
THERE S ONE SCENE IN WHICH A MULTI-MILLION-AIRE PROPOSES MARRIAGE TO A MAN, WHO DISGUISED HIMSELF AS A WOMAN.
..DO YOU KNOW THE MOVIE "SOME LIKE IT HOT" WITH MARILYN MONROE?


NO MATTER WHAT HE SAYS, HE CAN T DISCOURAGE THE MILLIONAIRE SO EASILY. IN THE END HE TAKES OFF HIS WIG AND SAYS "BUT I M A MAN!", BUT THE MULTIMILLIONAIRE ISN T SCARED AND JUST SAYS "NOBODY IS PERFECT!"
HE TRIES IT WITH "BUT I HAVE THE HABIT TO BE UNFAITHFUL" WHEREUPON THE MILLIONAIRE REPLIES AGAIN:" THAT DOESN T MATTER
THE MAN SEARCHES FOR EXCUSES AND SAYS "BUT I SMOKE!" WHEREON THE MILLIONAIRE REPLIES "THAT DOESN T MATTER."
NOT MATTER HOW HARD YOU TRY, NOONE WILL EVER PERFECT. NO MATTER HOW GREAT, RIGHTEOUS AND HONEST A HUMAN IS, HE CAN STILL MAKE MISTAKES AND THERE ARE MOMENTS IN WHICH HE BEHAVES LIKE AN IDIOT. IF YOU INTEND TO BE TOGETHER WITH THIS GIRL FOR A LONGER TIME, THEN YOU SHOULDN T DISGUISE AND OVERSTRAIN YOURSELF
IF YOU JUST DISGUISE YOURSELF A BIT AT THE BEGINNING, IT WILL BECOME MORE AND MORE UNTIL YOU AREN T YOURSELF ANYMORE BECAUSE YOU VE DENIED YOURSELF TOO MUCH.


OR DO YOU THINK THAT YOUR RELATIONSHIP IS SO FRAGILE—
—THAT IT LL ALREADY FAIL WHEN ONE CAN'T KEEP HIS PROMISE?
AND DON T WORRY! IF SHE SEES HOW DEPRESSED YOU ARE BY NOT BEING ABLE TO KEEP YOUR PROMISE SHE LL UNDERSTAND IT!
NO, I DON T THINK SO. AT LEAST NOT FROM MY SIDE
AND IF YOU APOLOGIZE FROM THE BOTTOM OF YOUR HEART SHE LL SURELY FORGIVE YOU.
GOOD. BUT SINCE YOU NORMALLY SHOULDN T BREAK YOUR PROMISES, YOU SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO HER IN ANY CASE.


YOU'VE BEEN AGAIN A GREAT HELP! THANK YOU VERY MUCH, SENSEI!
CRONK
I BEG YOUR PARDON!
YOU'RE WELCOME
CLICK


IN OUR FAMILY ALL MEN
ARE PASSIONATE COOKERS!
IT'S ALRIGHT! DID YOU REALLY MADE THAT ALL BY YOURSELF, SENSEI?
MUNCH
MUNCH
MUNCH
HARRUMPH
HM, IT HASN T GOT ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT, BUT PARDON ME
C.L.O.N.K
DAB DAB


JUST WAIT, "20 MASKS"! THIS TIME YOU'LL BE DONE!!!
IT REALLY HASN'T GOT ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT!


I COULD IMAGINE THAT IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY FOR "20 MASKS"!


IF I DON'T MENTION IT ONCE IN EVERY CONVERSATION I CAN'T CALM DOWN!


Ohkawa-residence...
HE APPARENTLY DOESN'T COME
DID ANYTHING HAPPEN TO HIM?
MAYBE HE HAS GOT A COLD OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT
OH NO! HOPEFULLY HE HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT!!
WHEW!
MAYBE HE HAS GOT 100 MASKS?
twitch
UWAH
S-SISTER SINCE WHEN ARE YOU HERE?
CRIMINY! I FEEL LIKE I'M IN A CLASSIC COMEDY UTAKO!

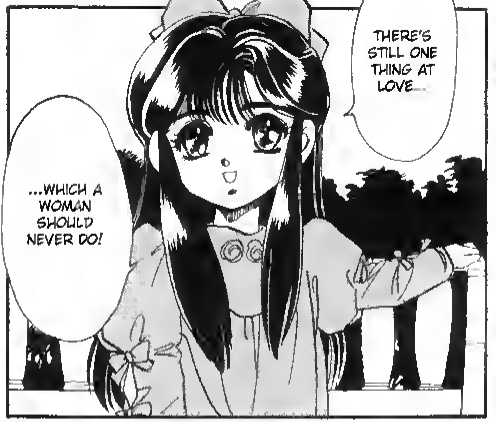

IS HE ALWAYS SO LATE?
NO, NORMALLY HE ALWAYS COMES AT 10 O'CLOCK
WHOOOSH
WELL, NOW IT'S NEARLY 12 O'CLOCK!
THIS "20 MASKS" REALLY TAKES HIS TIME!
SCHHH
SCHHH
TICK
TACK
TICK
TACK
TICK
TACK
TICK
TACK


I DON'T WANT TO GET WORKED UP! I ABSOLUTELY DON'T WANT TO GET WORKED UP!
HE SURLY HAS GOT A GOOD REASON WHY HE ISN'T ABLE TO COME.
WWTT
TELL ME THE TRUTH, SISTER, AM I UGLY AT THE MOMENT?
SHAKE
NOPE, YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL LIKE ALWAYS!
I'M SURE THAT I MUST LOOK SO UGLY AT THE MOMENT!
BUT I'M STARTING TO GET ANGRY AND MY FACE IS STARTING TO ITCH!


COME ON, THEN GET ANGRY!
BUT...
USUALLY YOU LIKE TO GET ANGRY, UTAKO!
AND SINCE YOU LIKE HIM IT S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU WORRY ABOUT HIM!


YOU CERTAINLY HAVE A FRENZIED HEARTTHROB, HAVEN'T YOU, LITAKO!?
NONSENSE! I DIDN'T THINK THAT FAR!
YOU THINK: "MAYBE HE DID SOMETHING STUPID IS NOW IN JAIL AND WILL BE SENTENCED FOR LIFE IMPRISONMENT!!"
AND YOU RE SKING YOURSELF: "WHY DOESN'T HE COME?"
"DID SOMETHING HAPPEN TO HIM?"


I ADMIRE YOU!
THOUGH YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW HIM, YOU FULLY CONFIDE IN HIM AND YOU THINK "OUR LOVE WILL BE EVER LASTING!", AM I RIGHT!?
YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CONTROL THIS KIND OF HEART-TROB.
BUT IF YOU DON'T ACT CLEVERLY YOU'LL BE PUNISHED!



YOU HAVE TO GET ANGRIER AND HAVE TO SUFFER A LOT MORE!

GET WORKED UP TO YOUR HEART'S CONTENT AND PUT YOURSELF UNDER A LOT OF STRESS!

THROUGH THIS YOUR LOVE WILL JUST BECOME MORE WONDERFUL!



SHE SHOULDN'T PERMIT THAT THE MAN RIDICULES HIMSELF!


IT DOESN'T MATTER, HOW STUBBORN AND CAPRICIOUS YOU ARE AND WHAT KIND OF SILLY THINGS YOU DO JUST DON'T CARE ABOUT IT!
AFTER ALL, YOU'RE A "WOMAN"!
RIDICULE!
AND A "WOMAN" IS ALREADY GREAT BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT SHE IS A "WOMAN"
SHE HAS THE RIGHT AND THE DUTY TO BEHAVE IMPERTINENT AND AUDACIOUS
A "MAN" ON THE OTHER HAND WHO BRINGS OUT THE TEARS IN A "WOMAN" ISN'T A "MAN" AND SUCH A PERSON YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY "RIDICULE"
OR DO YOU BELIEVE IN "ETERNAL LOVE"
COME ON!


I ABSOLUTELY DON'T WANT "ALWAYS" THE SAME!
ALWAYS "THE SAME" IS SUCH A BORE!
IF I DO "LOVE" SOMEBODY ..
THEN I WANT TO "LOVE" HIM MORE AND MORE!
CLAP CLAP
AWESOME!
THAT'S IT!
WWTT
WUPP
IF I JUST WAIT HERE AND GET WORKED UP, I'LL ONLY WASTE MY TIME!
MAKO! LET'S GO IN AND EAT THE CAKE WHILE WAITING FOR HIM!
I ALREADY DO!
FALL
CHAT
chirp
chirp
chirp


I'm sorry. I don't expect you to forgive me, but at least I wanted to apologize! I'll visit you again next Friday! But if you're so angry that you don't want to see me again, then just close the window and go sleeping! "20 masks"
I'M SORRY. I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO FORGIVE ME, BUT AT LEAST I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE!
UWAAH!
I'LL VISIT YOU AGAIN NEXT FRIDAY!
HE DIDN'T COME AFTER ALL...
AGAIN
HOW ANGRY I AM!
THAT'S WHY I'LL PREPARE TEA AND CAKE ON FRIDAY AND I'LL WAIT THE WHOLE NIGHT FOR YOU!
OF COURSE
WITH AN OPEN WINDOW!
BUT IF YOU'RE SO ANGRY THAT YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE ME AGAIN, THEN JUST CLOSE THE WINDOW AND GO SLEEPING! "20 MASKS"
BECAUSE THIS TIME YOU USED OKONOMI-YAKI-SAUCE INSTEAD OF CHOCOLATE COATING!
ALE
PUFFER!
WHY?
MAYBE IT WAS GOOD THAT "20 MASKS" DIDN'T COME YESTER-DAY...
END





That's the family Ohkawa. The father is weird, the mother is weird. Oh, and the oldest daughter is the most weird. It'll depend on the mood of the writer if Meiko continues to play an active role in this manga. (By the way, Utako and Mako are also the names of her nieces.)


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CLAMP

SATSUKI IGARASHI
NANASE OHKAWA
MICK NEKOI
MOKONA APAPA

CREDITS:

SCANNED BY: CLEO
EDITED BY: KERRIGAN
TRANSLATED BY: THUR-RUOR
PROOFREADINGS BY: SELENE


GOOD AFTERNOON, MY NAME IS AKIRA IJUIN
AND I VISIT THE THIRD CLASS OF THE CLAMP CAMPUS
PING
RESIDENCE OF THE IJUIN FAMILY
ASIDE FROM THAT I ACT AS THE "THIEF WITH THE 20 FACES", SO THAT I HAVE A LOT ON MY PLATE
CLAMP
I HAVEN'T GOT A FATHER ANYMORE, BUT THEREFOR TWO VERY NICE MOTHERS
STUFF
STUFF
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
GOBBLE
GOBBLE

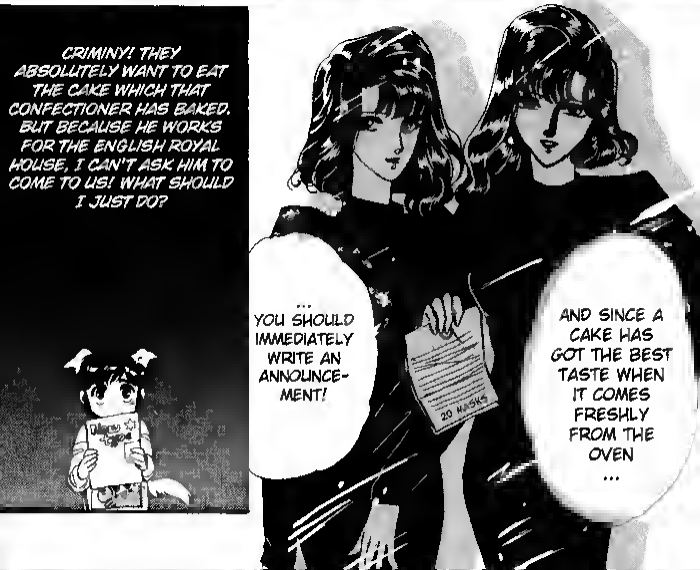

MY MOTHERS ARE REALLY NICE!
HONESTLY
KYAH KYAH
CLUMP
PATTER
PATTER
PATTER
AWAH DON'T COME ANY CLOSER
UWAAAH!
IN-INCREDIBLE HOW NICE MY MOTHERS ARE!
RUMBLE
CLANG
KYAH
KYAH
STRIKE OUT
PATTER
PATTER


FEAST'S
PARADISE


WE ABSOLUTELY MUST HAVE IT!!
AL-ALRIGHT, I'LL STEAL IT FOR YOU!!


WE ABSOLUTELY MUST HAVE A CAKE!
WOOOSH!
P-PARDON ME! I WAS JUST SO AFRAID
BUT WE DIDN'T EVEN SAY WHAT WE WANT TO HAVE!
CRIMINY!
OH WELL!
PAFF
BUT DIDN'T YOU RECENTLY EAT ONE?
BROWSE
THE HEAD CONFECTIONER OF THE ENGLISH ROYALE HOUSE WILL APPEAR ON JAPANESE TV!
WATCH HIM WHILE PREPARING THE MOST DELICIOUS EUROPEAN CANDIES!
YOUR CAKE IS REALLY DELICIOUS, TOO, BUT THIS TIME WE WANT ANOTHER ONE!
BUT NO!
I'M GONNA BAKE ONE AGAIN!
FLIT FLIT


HO HO
HO HO HO
"THE HEAD CONFECTIONER OF THE ENGLISH ROYAL HOUSE WILL APPEAR ON JAPANESE TV!"
... THE FAMOUS "QUEEN ELIZABETH CAKE" ...
ON "GENKI TV" HE'LL BAKE THE FAVOURITE CAKE OF THE ENGLISH QUEEN ELIZABETH
... AND HE'LL SHOW HOW TO DO IT!


CRIMINY! THEY ABSOLUTELY WANT TO EAT THE CAKE WHICH THAT CONFECTIONER HAS BAKED. BUT BECAUSE HE WORKS FOR THE ENGLISH ROYAL HOUSE, I CAN'T ASK HIM TO COME TO US! WHAT SHOULD I JUST DO?
... YOU SHOULD IMMEDIATELY WRITE AN ANNOUNCEMENT!
AND SINCE A CAKE HAS GOT THE BEST TASTE WHEN IT COMES FRESHLY FROM THE OVEN ...


TV STUDIO OF "GENKI TV"
"20 MASKS" WOULD NEVER DARE TO INTRUDE IN FRONT OF THIS POLICE CONTINGENT!
A LIKELY STORY!
HA HA HA
JIGGLE
HA HA HA
JIGGLE
AND THE ENTRANCE OF THE BUILDING OF "GENKI TV"!
SWIP
JUST LOOK! THE STUDIO!
SWIP
PAH!
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS SAY THAT, SENSEI!?


THERE'S THE POLICE WHEREVER YOU LOOK! AND SINCE HE ALWAYS ESCAPES OVER THE AIR PATH ...
... I'VE POSITIONED MY OFFICERS EVEN ON THE ROOF!!
IT'S ALRIGHT! YOU'VE THOUGHT OF EVERYTHING AS USUAL, KOBAYASHI-KUN!
OH!!
SWISH
CRUSHING
CHOP CHOP CHOP
HM?
BUT ... YOU SURLY KNOW THE SAYING: "DIRECTLY UNDER THE LIGHTHOUSE IT'S DARK."


THAT'S "30 MASKS"!!!
CRACK
?
?
CRYING
CHOP CHOP
CHOP CHOP
FUSS
SHOUT
EXCUSE ME, COULD YOU HELP ME JUST A SECOND?
BROOOSH
CLAP CLIP CLAP CLIP CLAP CLIP
...


PATTER-PATTER-PATTER-PATTER
THIS TIME I CALLED BETIMES!
FOLLOW HIM!!
DON'T LET HIM ESCAPE!
THROW
POOOFF
POOOFF
"20 MASKS"!
STOP!


CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
UWAH! THE ARCH COLLAPSES!!
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
OOPS!
BROCK
HA, HA, HA, HA! HE ESCAPED AGAIN!
WHY DO YOU LAUGH!?


TELL ME, KOBAYASHI-KUN! DO YOU KNOW THE STORY ...
... OF THE RABBIT AND THE TURTLE?
ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A SPEEDY RABBIT WHICH WAS SURE OF RUNNING FASTER THAN ANYONE ELSE. ONE DAY IT MET THE SLOW TURTLE AND ARRANGED A RACE WITH IT.
THE RABBIT WAS SO CONFIDENT IN SUCCEEDING THAT IT TOOK A NAP DURING THE RACE ... AND OF COURSE THE TURTLE WON THE RACE!
THE ARROGANCE OF THE RABBIT WHICH FELT FAR TOO SUPERIOR LET IT LOOSE THE RACE ... AND THE MORALE OF THE STORY IS "INATTENTION IS THE BIGGEST ENEMY".
A VERY INSTRUCTIVE STORY, ISN'T IT?
PERFECTLY FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU!
SOB


OH! BEAUTIFUL!
PLEASE START BAKING A "QUEEN ELIZABETH CAKE" FOR US!
KYAH! IT'S HIM!
THE HEAD CONFECTIONER OF THE ENGLISH ROYAL HOUSE IN PERSON!
KYAH
HOW EXCITING!
I BEG YOU PARDON FOR THE ABDUC-TION!
FROM YOU AND YOUR KITCHEN
WOULD YOU PLEASE BAKE YOUR FAMOUS CAKE FOR MY MOTHERS!
MY PLEASURE, WITH SUCH BEAUTIES!
PING


AMAZING! WE WANT TO TRY THAT, TOO!
JIGGLE
GATCHA
WOOOSH
GATCHA
WOW!
CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP


YOU'RE WELCOME! IT WAS A REALLY EXCITING DAY FOR ME, TOO!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR EVERY-THING!
IT'S JUST A LITTLE PRESENT!
WHISPER
... ACCEPT THAT AS A TOKEN OF MY GRATITUDE!
AH, WOULD YOU PLEASE ..
I HAVE TO THANK! IT WAS MUCH FUN, "20 MASKS"!



TO BE CONTINUED...

VOLUME 01 END


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